

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from the Dessau-Rosslau Area

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EVALUATION (except as noted)

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 19 to 25 May 1951

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DATE OBTAINED 25X1A

DATE PREPARED 21 June 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. On 19 May 1951, 14 trucks, each carrying 7 or 8 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, passed through Dessau (M 52/D 17), coming from the direction of Rosslau and proceeding toward Aken (M 52/D 96).

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2. On 19 May, about 300 troops with materiel were loaded at the Dessau freight yard. Specifically, there were troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets and 10 to 15 trucks, with pontoons, troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets and 4 trucks, with pontoons, troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets and 30 trucks, with pontoons, and troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, equipped with 40 trucks 1 truck 1 amphibious car and an undetermined number of canvas-covered weapons which source believed to be mortars. *

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3. The Soviet komendantura and the former hospital on Seminarstrasse, Dessau, were occupied by a total of about 250 troops who wore black-bordered red epaulets. The soldiers were seen drilling and patrolling the city.

4. The southern third of the Pionier Schule in Dessau-Rosslau quartered a unit of soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with crossed-axes insignia, equipped with pontoons and vehicles and an engineer unit equipped with pontoons and vehicles

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The latter unit was observed for the first time. ** The barracks buildings in the center of the installation, east of the gate, quartered a unit of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, while the barracks building west of the gate and in the northern section of the billeting area quartered a tank unit with T-34 tanks. *** The total number of troops in the installation on 22 and 25 May was estimated at 600. They were only a part of all units stationed there. The two gates in the south and southwest of the billeting area were guarded by soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets, while the other gates were guarded by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets.

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* Comment. the units loaded at Dessau were an engineer component of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div with about 40 trucks and

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CLASSIFICATION

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pontoons; an artillery component of the 21st Gds Mecz Div with 40 trucks; and an engineer unit of the GOFG from Potsdam with 4 trucks. The units left upon completion of the engineer exercise in the Dessau-Bken area. See

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Comment. The unit with trucks is known as a component of the engineer regiment of the GOFG in the Pionier Schule, Dessau-Rosslau. was previously reported from the Pionier Schule, but not in conjunction with engineer troops. If the information by source is correct, the unit, according to the number of vehicles previously observed can only be an independent engineer battalion of the Third Gds Mecz Army.

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Comment. The artillery and tank units are probably components of the 7th Gds Tank Div,

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